

WEEKLY RADIO ADDRESS BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND, APRIL 20, 1955

my Fellow South Carolinians:

This is the first in a series of weekly radio broadcasts / that I plan to make while Congress is in session. As a representative of the people of South Carolina / in the United States Senate, I feel it is my duty to keep you informed / of my activities here. From time to time, I will invite other Senators to join me in discussing legislation and issues / of vital concern to South Carolina. It is my hope that you will find these weekly reports both interesting and informa-
tive.

Since coming to Washington in January, I have been im- pressed with the many duties / a United States Senator is ob- ligated to perform.

First, a Senator is assigned to two or three committees / upon beginning his work. The Senate Democratic leadership gave me three assignments -- all of which I am most pleased with. They are Interstate and Foreign Commerce, Government Operations, and Public Works Committees. Most of the legis- lative work is accomplished / in the Senate's 15 standing com- mittees. All bills that are introduced on the Senate floor / are referred to an appropriate committee for initial action.

In committee, the bills are given thorough consideration / before being reported to the Senate floor for final action.

Committee hearings and other work occupy most of a Senator's morning. The Senate generally meets at noon

daily/to receive new bills and resolutions/and to act on bills reported favorably by the committees.

In the three and a half months I have been in the Senate, I have introduced and co-sponsored 25 bills, amendments, and resolutions. Among these/are measures to permanently restore/ 90 per cent of parity on basic farm commodities; to curb the Supreme Court's power to handle school segregation cases; to prevent low tariffs on textile products/that would cause economic injury to our textile employees and industry; to provide a four-acre minimum acreage allotment for our small cotton farmers; to authorize additional basic crop acreage/ for farmers hit by crop disasters; and to place farm veterans on an equal basis with other veterans/in obtaining GI home loans.

I have had the pleasure of sponsoring numerous other measures/which I believe are of vital concern to South Carolinians. During the past week I offered two more bills. One would prohibit the Secretary of Agriculture/ from raising emergency government loans to farmers/in excess of three per cent. The other would authorize a survey of the South Carolina coastal area/to determine possible means of protecting human lives and damage/ from hurricanes. The survey would be conducted by the Army Engineers/at government expense.

In these weekly reports, I plan to keep you informed

of other legislation I may introduce/and the progress of these measures I have already entered. I also plan to discuss my votes on major issues/and to present my views on pending legislation.

I thank you for listening this week. I hope you will tune in again next week/for another report on my activities/ in the United States Senate.